

Applicant : Gerhard Brendel
Appln. No. : 10/598,907
Page : 4

REMARKS

In the Final Rejection mailed July 22, 2011, the Examiner has rejected claims 11, 13-15 and 21-24 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Colmant (GB 455,408).

The invention relates to a method or a system for coating substrates with at least one coating material which comprises at least one organic component, wherein the coating material is applied to the substrate by means of atomization and spray-painting. The invention is characterized in that the coating material is atomized by means of water vapor.

In the rejection of claims 11, 13-15 and 21-24, the Examiner notes that these claims are anticipated by Colmant. Colmant teaches using bituminous coatings on buildings or in road-making, particularly from bituminous substances of high melting point or of high filler content. A hot bituminous mass is placed under pressure using a delivery pump or inert gas to be sprayed through a homogenizing nozzle. This method of delivery prevents the clogging of the apparatus, separation of the filler, and the bitumen from being spontaneously ignited. In contrast, the present invention recites a method for painting of substrates where an organic component is applied with a coating material to the substrate by atomization and spraying. The coating material is atomized using a water vapor such that the coating material is a water-based paint in which water serves as the solvent or dispersing agent.

The Examiner will note that Colmant teaches only the spraying of a bituminous substance that presumable is melted through a spraying nozzle where the dispersant is a delivery pump or gas. In the present invention, coating material is atomized using a water vapor such that the coating material is a water-based paint in which water serves as the solvent or dispersing agent. Thus, claim 11 as presently amended is distinct from Colmant in view of its use of a water vapor where the water serves as the solvent or dispersing agent. The limitations in Applicant's method are neither taught nor suggested in Colmant or the other art of record.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully suggests that claims 11, 13-16, and 21-24 are now in condition for allowance. An early notice thereof is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner

Applicant : Gerhard Brendel
Appln. No. : 10/598,907
Page : 5

have any comments or suggestions that would expedite the allowance of this application, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned.

No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein. Moreover, no amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim unless Applicant has argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

Please charge any additional fees, including extension of time fees, associated with this amendment and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 16-2463.

Respectfully submitted,

October 19, 2011

Date

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